Application No.: Not Yet Assigned Docket No.: HO-P03085US0

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A method of wrapping products (1) in films (2 a, 2 b) comprising the steps of:

positioning the products (1) on a first sheet of film (2 a) which is continuously advanced in one transport direction;

covering the products (1) with a second sheet of film (2 b), which is continuously advanced in the transport direction and which is aligned plane-parallel to the first sheet of film (2 a),

eharacterised by ultrasonically welding the first and second films (2 b) on the outer edges (16 a, 16 b) of each of the products wrappings(1) in each case and ultrasonically separating the overlapping films (2 a, 2 b) at selected positions;

separating the wrapped products (1) or groups of wrapped products (1).

- 2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim 1, <u>characterised in that wherein</u> the ultrasonic welding and ultrasonic cutting are performed with a welding punch (8) disposed opposite thea supporting table (7) and plane-parallel above one film-(2), the welding punch (8) and supporting table (7) being moved towards one another for ultrasonic welding and ultrasonic cutting.
- 3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim 2, characterised by further comprising the steps of generating an ultrasonic oscillation on the surface of the supporting table (7) with a sonotrode device integrated in the supporting table (7) and pressing the films (2 a, 2 b) onto the supporting table (7) in the region of the welding and cutting edges of the welding punch (8), which are an image of the welded and cut edges of the wrapped products (1).

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4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim 12, eharacterised in that wherein the ultrasonic welding and/or ultrasonic separation are performed with a pressure roller disposed opposite and plane-parallel to the supporting table (7) above one film-(2), said pressure roller being guided across said film (2)-according to the contours to be welded and cut, with pressure exerted on the supporting table (7) for ultrasonic welding and/or ultrasonic separation.

- 5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in any of the preceding-claims 1, characterised by pre shapingwherein at least one film is pre-shaped (2 a, 2 b) to receive the products (1) before the step of positioning the products (1) on the sheet of film (2 a, 2 b).
- 6. (Currently amended) A device for wrapping products-(1) in films (2 a, 2 b) according to the method as claimed in any of the preceding claims 1, the device comprising with:
  - a first conveyor means for continuously advancing a first sheet of film- $(2-a)_{27}$ ;
  - a positioning means (4)-for positioning products (1)-on the first sheet of film  $(2 a)_{i}$ ;
  - a second conveyor means for covering the products (1) positioned on the first sheet of film (2 a)-with a second sheet of film-(2 b), which is aligned plane-parallel to the first sheet of film-(2 a)- $\frac{1}{2}$
  - a fixed supporting table (7)-with an integrated sonotrode arrangement for generating ultrasonic oscillations; and
  - an opposing welding punch (8)-disposed plane-parallel to the supporting table-(7), said welding punch (8)-having welding and cutting edges as an image of the weldeding and cut edges of the wrapped products (1)-and being mounted on the supporting table (7)-such as to move towards and away from

the supporting table (7),;

said sheets of film (2 a, 2 b) with the products (1)-held between them being guided between the supporting table (7) and the welding punch-(8).

- 7. (Currently amended) The device as claimed in Claim 6, characterised by further including at least one pre-shaping means (9)-for at least one of the sheets of film (2 a, 2 b) such that the products (1)-can be received in indentations in the pre-shaped films (2 a, 2 b).
- 8. (Currently amended) The device as claimed in either of Claims 6-or 7, characterised in that wherein the welding and cutting edges of the welding punch (8) are formed in such a way that a pull-tab (13) is formed on an outer edge (16 a, 16 b) of the product wrapping and the first and second films (2 b) are not welded together in the region of the pull-tab (13).
- 9. (Currently amended) The device as claimed in any of Claims 6 to 8, characterised in that wherein the welding and cutting edges of the welding punch (8) are formed in such a way that a welding seam (15) or cut line (17) is formed in the pull-tab (13), said welding seam (15) or cut line (17) running transversely into a welding seam (15) on the outer edge (16 a, 16 b) of the product wrapping.
- 10. (Currently amended) The device as claimed in any of Claims 6 to 9, characterised in that wherein the welding and cutting edges of the welding punch (8) are formed in such a way that a cut line (17) between two outer edges (16 a, 16 b) of the product wrapping runs transversely across one of the films (2 a, 2 b) of the product wrapping.

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11. (Currently amended) A device for wrapping products (1)-in films (2 a, 2 b)-according to the method as claimed in any of Claims 1, 4 and 5 with the device comprising:

a fixed supporting table (7) with an integrated sonotrode arrangement for generating ultrasonic oscillations; and

an opposing supporting roller which is plane-parallel to the supporting table (7) and which can be guided in a freely movable manner.

wherein sheets of film (2 a, 2 b) with the products (1) held between them can be being disposed between the supporting table (7) and the supporting roller.

- 12. (Currently amended) A film-wrapped product (1), comprising:

  a product especially confectionery, which is wrapped between
  two films (2 a, 2 b), characterised in that wherein said films (2
  a, 2 b) are ultrasonically welded together along the entire outer
  edges (16 a, 16 b) of the product (1) and at least one pull-tab
  (13) is provided at an outer edge (16 a, 16 b).
- 13. (Currently amended) The film-wrapped product (1) as claimed in Claim 12, eharacterised in that wherein a welding seam (15) or cut line (17) is formed in the pull-tab (13), said welding seam (15) or cut line (17) running transversely into a welding seam (15) on the outer edges (16 a, 16 b) of the product wrapping.
- 14. (Currently amended) he film-wrapped product (1) as claimed in either of Claims 12 or 13, characterised in that wherein a cut line (17) between two outer edges (16 a, 16 b) of the product wrapping runs transversely across one of the films (2 a, 2 b) of the product wrapping.
- 15. (New) The film-wrapped product of Claim 12, wherein the product is a confectionery.